

WEB TABLES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DECEMBER 2011 NCES 2012-173

Students Attending For-Profit Postsecondary Institutions: Demographics, Enrollment Characteristics, and 6-Year Outcomes

During the past decade, the for-profit sector in U.S. undergraduate education has experienced dramatic growth, often outpacing that seen in the private nonprofit and public sectors. From 1998–99 to 2008–09, the number of associate's degrees conferred by for-profit postsecondary institutions grew by 125 percent and the number of bachelor's degrees by over 400 percent. In contrast, the number of associate's and bachelor's degrees conferred by public postsecondary institutions increased by 33 and 29 percent, respectively, over the same decade (Aud et al. 2011). Although for-profit postsecondary institutions enrolled about 10 percent of all undergraduates in 2007–08 (Staklis 2010), over the last decade the proportion of students attending these institutions has increased more than the proportion attending institutions in other sectors (Horn and Li 2009; Wilson 2010).

These Web Tables examine the demographic and postsecondary enrollment characteristics of undergraduates who attended for-profit institutions in 2007–08 and present the 6-year outcomes of undergraduates who first enrolled in for-profit postsecondary institutions in 2003–04.¹ Data are presented for all for-profit students and separately for students who attended less-than-2-year, 2-year, and 4-year institutions. To provide additional context, the tables also include comparable data for students in community colleges and public and private nonprofit 4-year colleges and universities. The data come from two nationally representative studies: the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08), a survey of U.S. undergraduates who were enrolled in 2007–08, and the Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/09), a survey that followed undergraduates

who began postsecondary education in 2003–04 through June 2009.

The first four tables present information from NPSAS:08 on the student and enrollment characteristics of undergraduates in each postsecondary institution sector in 2007–08:

- Table 1 shows the estimated percentage distribution of students enrolled in the three for-profit and other institution sectors, based on their age, sex, and race/ethnicity.
- Table 2 shows the percentage distribution of undergraduates according to their demographic characteristics and the percentage who ever received a Pell Grant, by sector of first institution.
- Table 3 provides information on the high school academic preparation of undergraduates who attended each postsecondary institution sector as measured by their high

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school completion status, high school grade point average (GPA), and the highest level of mathematics taken or planned in high school.

- Table 4 presents the postsecondary enrollment characteristics of students who attended each institution sector, including students' undergraduate program, major field of study, attendance intensity, enrollment and employment status, and participation in distance education.

The remaining tables present 6-year outcomes (as of June 2009) for 2003–04 beginning postsecondary students using data from BPS: 04/09:

- Tables 5 and 6 summarize the 6-year attainment and persistence status and the 6-year transfer status, respectively, of beginning postsecondary students by sector of institution first attended.
- Tables 7 and 8 report the percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate within 6 years by sector of postsecondary institution first attended and selected student and enrollment characteristics.

RELATED NCES REPORTS

Readers may also be interested in the following NCES products related to the topic of these Web Tables:

Web Tables—Profile of Undergraduate Students: 2007–08 (NCES 2010-205).
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2010205>

Web Tables—Student Financing of Undergraduate Education: 2007–08 (NCES 2010-162).
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2010162>

Changes in Postsecondary Awards Below the Bachelor's Degree: 1997 to 2007 (NCES 2010-167).
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2010167>

DATA

The estimates presented in these tables were generated from the 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08) and the 2004/09 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/09). NPSAS is a comprehensive, nationally representative survey of how students finance their postsecondary education conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). It is conducted approximately every 4 years and includes a broad array of demographic and enrollment characteristics. NPSAS uses a two-stage sampling design. Postsecondary institutions are selected for inclusion in the first stage, and students are selected from these institutions in the second stage. The NPSAS:08 target population consisted of all eligible undergraduate and gradu-

ate students enrolled any time between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008 at Title IV² eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.³ Approximately 114,000 undergraduates and 14,000 graduate students were study respondents for NPSAS:08.

BPS follows cohorts of students who enroll in postsecondary education for the first time and covers broad topics concerning student persistence in and completion of postsecondary education and transitions to employment. The sample of students studied in BPS:04/09 is drawn from first-time beginning students who were sampled for the 2003–04 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:04), whose target population included all students enrolled in Title IV² postsecondary institutions in the United States and Puerto Rico at any time between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004.³ This population included about 19 million undergraduates and 3 million graduate students enrolled in more than 6,000 postsecondary institutions. Approximately 19,000 respondents were identified in NPSAS:04 as first-time postsecondary students and sampled for BPS:04/09. The BPS:04/09 sample represents the approximately 4 million undergraduates who were first-time postsecondary beginners in 2003–04.

For more information about the methodology of NPSAS: 08, BPS:04/09, and NPSAS:04, see the following reports:

2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08) Full-scale Methodology Report (NCES 2011-188)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011188>

Appendix B of *Persistence and Attainment of 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students: After Six Years: First Look* (NCES 2011-151).

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011151>

2004 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:04) Full-scale Methodology Report (NCES 2006-180).
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2006180>

ABOUT POWERSTATS

The estimates presented in these Web Tables were produced using PowerStats, a web-based software application that enables users to generate tables for the postsecondary sample surveys conducted by NCES. PowerStats produces the survey design-adjusted standard errors necessary for testing the statistical significance of differences in the estimates. PowerStats also contains a detailed description of how each variable was created and includes question wording for items coming directly from an interview.

VARIABLES USED

All estimates presented in this Statistics in Brief were produced using PowerStats, a web-based software application that allows users to generate tables for many of the postsecondary surveys conducted by NCES. The variables used in this Brief are listed below. Visit the NCES DataLab website (<http://nces.ed.gov/datalab>) to view detailed information on how these variables were constructed and their sources. Under *Detailed Information About PowerStats Variables, NPSAS Undergraduates: 2008 and Beginning Postsecondary Students, BPS: 2004/2009*, click by subject or by variable name. The program files that generated the statistics presented in this Brief can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012173>.

Label	Name
2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08)	
Age as of 12/31/07	AGE
Attendance intensity (all schools)	ATTNPTRN
Dependency and marital status (separated is unmarried)	DEPEND5B
Field of study: Undergraduate	MAJORS12
Gender	GENDER
High school degree type	HSDEG
High school GPA	HSGPA
Highest level of math completed or planned	HCMATHHI
Income percentile dependent students	PCTDEP
Income percentile independent students	PCTINDEP
Institution type	SECTOR1
Job: Primary role as student or employee (exclude work-study or assistant)	JOBROLE
Main reason for attending NPSAS institution	ATTENDMR
Number of years received Pell Grants	PELLYRS
Parents' highest education level	PAREDUC
Participation in distance education:	
Entire program	DISTALL
Took courses in 2007–08	DISTEDUC
Race/ethnicity (with multiple)	RACE
Undergraduate degree program	UGDEG
Work intensity while enrolled (exclude work-study or assistant)	JOBENR

Variables continued on next page.

With PowerStats, users can replicate or expand upon the tables presented in this report. The output from PowerStats includes the estimates (e.g., percentages or means), the proper standard errors,⁴ and weighted sample sizes. If the number of valid cases is too small to produce a reliable estimate (fewer than 30 cases), PowerStats prints the double dagger symbol (#) instead of the estimate.

In addition to producing tables, PowerStats users may conduct linear or logistic regressions. Many options are available for output of the regression results. For a description of all the options available, users should access the PowerStats website (<http://nces.ed.gov/datalab/index.aspx>). For more information, go to powerstats@ed.gov.

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For readers with disabilities, a Section 508-compliant version of these Web Tables is available at
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2012173>.

VARIABLES USED—CONTINUED

Label	Name
2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/09)	
Attainment and persistence relative to first institution as of 2009	PROUT6Y
Degree program 2003–04	UGDEG
Dependency status 2003–04	DEPEND
First institution sector (level and control) 2003–04	FSECTOR
Gender	GENDER
High school degree type	HSDEG
Highest degree attained anywhere through 2009	ATHTY6Y
Income percentile dependent students 2003–04	PCTDEP
Income percentile independent students 2003–04	PCTINDEP
Job while enrolled 2004: Student or employee (exclude work-study)	JOBROLE
Job while enrolled 2004: Work intensity (exclude work-study)	JOBENR
Major when last enrolled any year through 2009 (condensed)	MAJ09C
NPSAS institution: Attendance pattern first year	ATTNSTAT
Parents' highest education level	PAREDUC
Pell Grant: Number of years received as of 2009	PELYRS09
Race/ethnicity	RACE
Reasons enrolled 2004:	
Complete associate's degree	ATTENDA
Complete certificate	ATTENDB
Job skills	ATTENDC
Personal interest	ATTENDD
Transfer to a 4-year college	ATTENDF
Transfer (first): Type 2009	TFTYPE6Y

REFERENCES

Aud, S., Hussar, W., Kena, G., Bianco, K., Frohlich, L., Kemp, J., and Tahan, K. (2011). *The Condition of Education 2011* (NCES 2011-033). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Horn, L., and Li, X. (2009). *Changes in Postsecondary Awards Below the Bachelor's Degree: 1997 to 2007* (NCES 2010-167). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Staklis, S. (2010). *Web Tables—Profile of Undergraduate Students: Trends From Selected Years, 1995–96 to 2007–08* (NCES 2010-220). National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC.

Wilson, R. (2010, February 7). For-Profit Colleges Change Higher Education's Landscape. *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Retrieved February 16, 2010, from <http://chronicle.com/article/For-Profit-Colleges-Change/64012/>.

ENDNOTES

¹ Undergraduates include postsecondary students who attended for-profit, public, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year, 2-year, and 4-year institutions, including both students who were and were not enrolled in a degree or certificate program.

² Title IV postsecondary institutions are those eligible to participate in the federal financial aid programs included in Title IV of the Higher Education Act. These programs include Pell Grants, federal student loans, work-study, and other federal aid.

³ The target population of students was limited to those enrolled in an academic program, at least one course for credit that could be applied toward an academic degree, or an occupational or vocational program requiring at least 3 months or 300 clock hours of instruction to receive a degree, certificate, or other formal award. The target population excluded students who were also enrolled in high school or a high school completion (e.g., GED preparation) program.

⁴ The NPSAS and BPS samples are not simple random samples; therefore, simple random sample techniques for estimating sampling error cannot be applied to these data. PowerStats takes into account the complexity of the sampling procedures and calculates standard errors appropriate for such samples. The method for computing sampling errors used by PowerStats involves approximating the estimator by replication of the sampled population. The procedure used is a bootstrap technique.

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Table 1.

UNDERGRADUATES' POSTSECONDARY SECTOR: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' postsecondary institution sector, by age group, sex, and race/ethnicity: Academic year 2007–08

Student characteristic	All under-graduates	For-profit				Public or private nonprofit		
		Total	Less-than-2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year	4-year	Other ¹
Total	100.0	9.5	2.1	2.6	4.8	43.5	46.1	0.9
Age as of 12/31/07								
18 or younger	100.0	5.0	1.9	1.4	1.6	40.3	54.4	0.4
19–23	100.0	6.2	1.8	1.9	2.5	36.7	56.6	0.6
24–29	100.0	15.6	3.0	4.4	8.2	47.2	36.1	1.2
30–39	100.0	16.8	2.7	3.7	10.3	53.2	28.6	1.4
40 or older	100.0	11.2	1.9	2.4	6.9	61.7	25.6	1.5
Sex								
Male	100.0	6.9	1.2	1.9	3.9	43.9	48.5	0.8
Female	100.0	11.5	2.9	3.1	5.6	43.3	44.2	1.0
Race/ethnicity ²								
White	100.0	7.2	1.3	1.9	4.0	42.3	49.9	0.6
Black	100.0	16.9	3.1	5.2	8.5	44.4	37.9	0.8
Hispanic	100.0	14.1	5.3	3.4	5.5	45.7	38.6	1.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	100.0	5.7	1.0	1.5 !	3.2	47.5	45.6	1.3 !
Other or Two or more races	100.0	10.5	1.7	2.7 !	6.1	45.5	42.3	1.7

¹ Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

¹ Includes public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year.

² Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, and Other or Two or more races includes American Indian, Alaska Native, and respondents having origins in more than one race or in a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

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Table S1.

Standard errors for table 1: UNDERGRADUATES' POSTSECONDARY SECTOR: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' postsecondary institution sector, by age group, sex, and race/ethnicity: Academic year 2007–08

Student characteristic	All under-graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit			Other
		Total	Less-than-2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year	4-year	
Total	†	#	0.00	0.28	0.28	#	#	#
Age as of 12/31/07								
18 or younger	†	0.30	0.11	0.20	0.22	1.24	1.17	0.09
19–23	†	0.19	0.05	0.21	0.15	0.28	0.30	0.05
24–29	†	0.41	0.11	0.60	0.74	0.51	0.58	0.08
30–39	†	0.62	0.11	0.58	0.67	0.84	0.69	0.14
40 or older	†	0.76	0.19	0.34	0.92	0.95	0.76	0.15
Sex								
Male	†	0.36	0.14	0.33	0.18	0.28	0.35	0.07
Female	†	0.24	0.10	0.38	0.47	0.21	0.25	0.05
Race/ethnicity								
White	†	0.22	0.09	0.25	0.31	0.39	0.36	0.08
Black	†	1.11	0.33	0.86	1.09	1.06	0.94	0.19
Hispanic	†	0.97	0.34	0.48	0.62	1.33	1.00	0.30
Asian/Pacific Islander	†	0.82	0.15	0.50	0.52	1.42	1.28	0.48
Other or Two or more races	†	1.14	0.17	0.82	0.86	1.54	1.38	0.32

† Not applicable.

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

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Table 2.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' demographic characteristics and percentage of undergraduates who ever received a Pell Grant, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

Student characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
						4-year
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sex						
Male		43.1	31.2	23.5	31.4	34.5
Female		56.9	68.8	76.5	68.6	65.5
Race/ethnicity ¹						
White		61.8	46.5	38.6	45.0	50.8
Black		14.0	24.7	20.5	28.6	24.5
Hispanic		14.1	21.0	35.1	18.7	16.0
Asian		6.6	3.9	3.0	4.0 !	4.3
Other or Two or more races		3.5	3.9	2.8	3.7 !	4.4
Age						
18 or younger		10.0	5.2	9.0	5.5	3.3
19–23		49.7	32.2	41.5	36.8	25.7
24–29		17.3	28.3	24.2	29.7	29.3
30–39		12.6	22.1	16.0	18.3	26.8
40 or older		10.5	12.3	9.3	9.7	14.9
Dependency and marital status ²						
Dependent		53.0	23.9	33.5	27.7	17.7
Independent		47.0	76.1	66.5	72.3	82.3
Unmarried with no dependents		15.7	21.0	17.5	20.2	22.9
Married with no dependents		5.9	6.0	4.1	4.6	7.6
Unmarried with dependents		13.4	31.3	31.7	34.4	29.6
Married with dependents		12.0	17.8	13.2	13.2	22.3
Highest education attained by either parent ³						
High school diploma or less		33.5	50.8	54.9	54.6	47.1
Some postsecondary education ⁴		27.0	28.2	26.7	25.5	30.3
Bachelor's degree or higher		39.5	21.0	18.4	19.9	22.6

See notes at end of table.

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Table 2.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' demographic characteristics and percentage of undergraduates who ever received a Pell Grant, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08—Continued

Student characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Dependent student income⁵						
Lowest 25 percent	25.5	50.6	52.7	53.0	46.9	31.1
Lower middle 25 percent	25.0	24.9	22.1	24.1	27.9	30.1
Upper middle 25 percent	25.0	15.7	13.9	17.8	15.6	23.3
Highest 25 percent	24.5	8.8	11.4	5.1	9.6	15.5
Independent student income⁶						
Lowest 25 percent	25.5	32.5	45.0	38.4	25.3	21.6
Lower middle 25 percent	25.0	29.7	29.7	31.6	28.8	24.1
Upper middle 25 percent	25.0	24.9	17.6	22.2	28.7	26.1
Highest 25 percent	24.5	13.0	7.8	7.8	17.3	28.2
Ever received a Pell Grant	40.1	74.5	74.6	79.9	71.7	36.4

¹ Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

² Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, and Other or Two or more races includes American Indian, Alaska Native, and respondents having origins in more than one race or in a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

³ Unmarried includes separated students.

⁴ Estimates for parent education exclude the 3.7 percent of students who did not know the highest education attained by either parent.

⁵ Some postsecondary education includes vocational or technical training, less than 2 years of college, associate's degree, and 2 or more years of college but no degree.

⁶ Based on parents' income in 2006.

⁶ Based on student's income plus any income from a spouse, if applicable, in 2006.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 0.9 percent of undergraduates who attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2007–08 are included in the total for all undergraduates but not shown separately. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

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Table S2.

Standard errors for table 2: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' demographic characteristics and percentage of undergraduates who ever received a Pell Grant, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

Student characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
			†	†	†	†
Total		†	†	†	†	†
Sex						
Male	0.60	1.83	2.70	4.45	2.47	0.64
Female	0.60	1.83	2.70	4.45	2.47	0.64
Race/ethnicity						
White	0.52	1.49	2.84	3.59	1.92	0.93
Black	0.28	1.70	2.22	3.14	2.21	0.53
Hispanic	0.44	1.06	2.21	2.17	1.75	0.81
Asian	0.19	0.60	0.43	1.20	0.80	0.32
Other or Two or more races	0.15	0.45	0.32	1.27	0.63	0.24
Age						
18 or younger	0.19	0.36	0.51	0.76	0.54	0.27
19–23	0.25	1.02	1.13	1.91	1.50	0.39
24–29	0.18	0.81	0.82	1.93	1.43	0.25
30–39	0.16	0.89	0.66	1.81	1.52	0.29
40 or older	0.17	0.90	0.89	0.86	1.48	0.31
Dependency and marital status						
Dependent	0.31	1.13	1.20	2.40	1.68	0.49
Independent	0.31	1.13	1.20	2.40	1.68	0.49
Unmarried with no dependents	0.20	1.01	0.71	1.24	1.88	0.33
Married with no dependents	0.12	0.62	0.39	1.34	1.08	0.21
Unmarried with dependents	0.21	1.58	1.58	2.83	2.49	0.44
Married with dependents	0.23	0.90	0.84	1.48	1.52	0.40
Highest education attained by either parent						
High school diploma or less	0.23	0.99	1.11	2.22	1.71	0.40
Some postsecondary education	0.21	0.91	0.82	1.57	1.37	0.44
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.22	0.83	0.72	1.35	1.47	0.45

See notes at end of table.

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Table S2.

Standard errors for table 2: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' demographic characteristics and percentage of undergraduates who ever received a Pell Grant, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08—Continued

Student characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Dependent student income						
Lowest 25 percent	0.29	1.77	3.08	3.92	2.92	0.58
Lower middle 25 percent	0.24	1.45	1.05	3.60	2.67	0.49
Upper middle 25 percent	0.26	1.47	1.32	3.96	2.20	0.48
Highest 25 percent	0.31	0.77	1.38	1.43	1.29	0.45
Independent student income						
Lowest 25 percent	0.32	1.03	1.56	3.01	1.73	0.48
Lower middle 25 percent	0.34	1.02	1.12	1.42	1.68	0.39
Upper middle 25 percent	0.39	1.11	1.01	2.17	1.73	0.54
Highest 25 percent	0.37	0.69	0.68	1.48	1.23	0.52
Ever received a Pell Grant	0.75	0.78	1.35	2.19	1.48	1.14
						0.56

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 3.

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC PREPARATION: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' high school completion status, grade point average, and highest math class, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

High school completion status, grade point average, and highest math class	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
						private nonprofit 4-year
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
High school completion status¹						
High school diploma	92.4	82.9	80.1	79.2	86.2	89.9
GED, certificate of completion, or equivalent	6.8	14.5	13.4	18.0	13.1	8.9
Did not complete high school	0.8	2.6	6.6	2.7	0.8	1.1
High school grade point average²						
3.50 or higher	33.4	17.6	19.6	15.5	17.8	22.8
3.00–3.49	37.3	36.9	38.6	33.7	38.1	38.5
2.50–2.99	14.0	19.6	20.3	20.2	18.9	17.0
2.00–2.49	12.9	21.3	17.9	25.4	20.6	18.0
Less than 1.99	2.4	4.5	3.6	5.2	4.6	3.6
Highest math class³						
None of these	9.4	16.4	18.3	17.0	14.8	14.5
Algebra II	23.1	31.7	31.6	27.0	34.7	29.3
Trigonometry	12.9	11.7	11.0	12.8	11.3	12.9
Pre-calculus	25.1	21.3	22.0	23.1	19.7	23.3
Calculus	29.4	19.0	17.1	20.0	19.5	20.1

¹ Estimates exclude the 3.4 percent of undergraduates who graduated from high school in a foreign country and the 0.4 percent who were home schooled.

² Reported only for students under age 30.

³ Based on information self-reported on College Board and ACT test questionnaires and the student interview. Reported only for students under age 30.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. The 0.9 percent of undergraduates who attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2007–08 are included in the total for all undergraduates but not shown separately.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S3.

Standard errors for table 3: HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC PREPARATION: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' high school completion status, grade point average, and highest math class, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

High school completion status, grade point average, and highest math class	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
			†	†	†	†
Total		†	†	†	†	†
High school completion status						
High school diploma	0.15	0.82	1.19	1.67	0.98	0.28
GED, certificate of completion, or equivalent	0.16	0.76	0.83	1.70	0.95	0.28
Did not complete high school	0.07	0.32	0.83	0.88	0.24	0.14
High school grade point average						
3.50 or higher	0.29	0.89	1.28	1.77	1.27	0.44
3.00–3.49	0.23	0.96	1.07	1.85	1.63	0.38
2.50–2.99	0.22	1.13	0.71	2.32	1.81	0.36
2.00–2.49	0.18	0.82	0.94	1.74	1.28	0.33
Less than 1.99	0.08	0.43	0.52	1.02	0.71	0.14
Highest math class						
None of these	0.16	0.65	0.81	1.34	1.17	0.31
Algebra II	0.24	1.01	0.92	2.01	1.74	0.45
Trigonometry	0.17	0.83	0.51	1.74	1.42	0.29
Pre-calculus	0.19	0.88	0.95	1.87	1.35	0.34
Calculus	0.33	0.82	0.96	1.74	1.26	0.38

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4.

ENROLLMENT: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' enrollment characteristics and percentage participating in distance education, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Degree or certificate program						
Certificate	7.1	34.4	98.4	35.7	5.6 !	6.9
Associate's degree	40.2	38.2	†	61.8	42.6	78.9
Bachelor's degree	46.7	25.8	†	†	50.4	3.0
No certificate or degree	6.0	1.6	1.6 !	1.9 !	1.4 !	11.2
Major field of study						
Health	15.3	32.0	44.9	44.2	19.9	18.3
Business/management	17.2	22.6	2.3	12.1	37.0	14.0
STEM ¹	16.1	12.9	4.7	11.8	17.1	11.4
Social sciences and humanities	23.0	4.8	0.5 !	2.1	8.1	24.4
Education	6.2	0.9	0.2 !	0.4 !	1.5 !	5.4
Vocational/technical and other technical/professional ²	13.7	22.2	42.0	23.3	12.9	13.5
Undeclared	8.6	4.5	5.3 !	6.0	3.3	13.0
Attendance intensity						
Full-time, full-year	39.3	37.0	28.4	26.2	46.4	19.1
Full-time, part-year	14.0	32.8	46.8	43.1	21.2	11.4
Part-time, full-year	22.1	13.6	11.8	12.5	15.0	31.6
Part-time, part-year	24.6	16.6	13.0	18.3	17.4	37.9
Work intensity while enrolled ³						
Did not work	25.2	26.7	36.1	30.1	20.8	18.7
Part-time	42.6	34.5	39.1	39.6	29.8	40.0
Full-time	32.2	38.8	24.8	30.3	49.4	41.4
Primary role as student or employee ⁴						
Student working to meet expenses	67.8	57.6	70.9	63.2	50.2	59.9
Employee enrolled in school	32.2	42.4	29.1	36.8	49.8	40.1

See notes at end of table.

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 4.

ENROLLMENT: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' enrollment characteristics and percentage participating in distance education, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

—Continued

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Primary reason for enrolling⁵						
Gain job or occupational skills	37.0	49.6	50.1	49.3	†	35.4
Prepare for job certification or license	14.4	21.9	25.5	19.0	†	13.4
Complete associate's degree	11.5	6.6	0.0	12.0	†	12.1
Complete undergraduate certificate	2.3	4.4	5.9	3.2	†	2.1
Take courses solely for recreation, self-improvement, or personal interest	7.4	10.2	12.7	8.2	†	7.0
Prepare to transfer to another postsecondary institution ⁶	22.6	6.1	4.7	7.2	†	24.7
Earn course credits needed for a program at a different postsecondary institution	4.9	1.1	1.2	1.1	†	5.4
Participation in distance education⁷						
Took distance education courses for credit during the current school year	20.4	21.3	6.2	18.0	29.7	24.2
Entire program taught through distance education	3.7	12.3	1.6	8.3	19.0	3.2

† Not applicable.

¹ Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

¹ Includes life sciences, physical sciences, mathematics, computer and information sciences, and engineering and engineering technologies.

² Includes construction trades; personal and culinary services; mechanic, repair technologies, and technicians; precision production; homeland security, law enforcement and protective services; architecture; public administration and social services; law and legal studies; and transportation and materials moving.

³ Excludes work-study and assistantships. Students who worked part time worked less than 35 hours a week, and students who worked full time worked 35 hours or more a week.

⁴ Undergraduates who were employed while enrolled were asked whether they considered their primary role to be as a student working to meet expenses or as an employee who decided to enroll in school.

⁵ Students can select more than one reason. Only applies to students who attended less-than-4-year postsecondary institutions.

⁶ Includes preparing to transfer to 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions.

⁷ Distance education categories are not mutually exclusive.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 0.9 percent of undergraduates who attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2007–08 are included in the total for all undergraduates but not shown separately. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4.

Standard errors for table 4: ENROLLMENT: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' enrollment characteristics and percentage participating in distance education, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Total		†	†	†	†	†
Degree or certificate program						
Certificate	0.32	1.82	0.59	4.87	1.96	0.52
Associate's degree	0.48	1.39	†	5.28	2.39	0.71
Bachelor's degree	0.22	1.42	†	†	3.15	0.35
No certificate or degree	0.28	0.33	0.59	0.76	0.53	0.56
Major field of study						
Health	0.37	2.09	5.55	4.70	3.09	0.48
Business/management	0.25	1.65	0.60	2.29	2.41	0.28
STEM	0.19	0.96	1.10	1.83	1.58	0.25
Social sciences and humanities	0.37	0.63	0.18	0.50	1.08	0.64
Education	0.19	0.24	0.07	0.19	0.47	0.21
Vocational/technical and other technical/professional	0.35	1.81	5.17	4.53	1.28	0.56
Undeclared	0.28	0.67	1.92	1.15	0.87	0.68
Attendance intensity						
Full-time, full-year	0.28	1.70	1.62	2.98	4.00	0.34
Full-time, part-year	0.28	1.14	2.02	2.84	3.33	0.48
Part-time, full-year	0.33	0.94	1.10	2.04	1.48	0.38
Part-time, part-year	0.35	1.21	1.52	2.27	2.62	0.76
Work intensity while enrolled						
Did not work	0.24	0.73	1.22	1.46	0.95	0.30
Part-time	0.25	1.00	1.22	1.66	1.48	0.40
Full-time	0.30	1.20	0.84	1.45	1.69	0.43
Primary role as student or employee						
Student working to meet expenses	0.34	1.21	0.96	1.94	1.81	0.43
Employee enrolled in school	0.34	1.21	0.96	1.94	1.81	0.43

See notes at end of table.

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S4.

Standard errors for table 4: ENROLLMENT: Percentage distribution of undergraduates' enrollment characteristics and percentage participating in distance education, by postsecondary institution sector: Academic year 2007–08—Continued

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Primary reason for enrolling						
Gain job or occupational skills	0.42	1.19	0.83	2.18	†	0.42
Prepare for job certification or license	0.25	0.73	0.82	1.09	†	0.26
Complete associate's degree	0.24	0.70	0.00	1.25	†	0.26
Complete undergraduate certificate	0.11	0.38	0.47	0.55	†	0.11
Take courses solely for recreation, self-improvement, or personal interest	0.21	0.68	0.59	1.09	†	0.24
Prepare to transfer to another postsecondary institution	0.37	0.50	0.36	0.85	†	0.38
Earn course credits needed for a program at a different postsecondary institution	0.18	0.19	0.23	0.33	†	0.20
Participation in distance education						
Took distance education courses for credit during the current school year	0.33	1.21	0.33	1.30	2.09	0.33
Entire program taught through distance education	0.18	1.39	0.23	1.33	2.19	0.14
						0.18

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2007–08 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:08).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 5.

SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT AND PERSISTENCE: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate, persisted, or left without a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution: 2004–09

Sector of first postsecondary institution	Total percent attained	Highest degree or certificate attained from any postsecondary institution by spring 2009			Status of those who did not attain a degree or certificate from any postsecondary institution, spring 2009			
		Bachelor's degree	Associate's degree	Certificate	Enrolled at first institution	Enrolled at different 2-year institution	Enrolled at different 4-year institution	No degree or certificate, not enrolled
Total	49.5	30.7	9.3	9.4	6.0	4.0	5.0	35.5
All for-profit institutions	44.4	4.0	9.9	30.6	2.0 !	5.6	2.4	45.5
Less-than-2-year	53.3	0.2 !	0.9	52.2	2.0 !	5.5	2.2	37.0
2-year	39.5	0.5 !	19.5	19.6	2.1 !	6.0 !	1.5 !	50.9
4-year	33.9	15.7	14.6	3.6 !	1.9 !	5.2 !	4.1 !	54.8
Public 2-year institutions	34.4	11.6	14.4	8.5	8.7	4.4	6.4	46.0
Public or private nonprofit 4-year institutions	66.6	61.3	3.8	1.5	4.7	3.2	4.5	21.1

! Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 2.5 percent of undergraduates who initially attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2003–04 are included in the total but not shown separately. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S5.

Standard errors for table 5: SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT AND PERSISTENCE: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate, persisted, or left without a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution: 2004–09

Sector of first postsecondary institution	Total percent attained	Highest degree or certificate attained from any postsecondary institution by spring 2009			Status of those who did not attain a degree or certificate from any postsecondary institution, spring 2009			
		Bachelor's degree	Associate's degree	Certificate	Enrolled at first institution	Enrolled at different 2-year institution	Enrolled at different 4-year institution	No degree or certificate, not enrolled
Total	0.68	0.56	0.37	0.38	0.39	0.26	0.29	0.65
All for-profit institutions	2.08	0.94	1.34	2.21	0.63	0.93	0.59	1.95
Less-than-2-year	2.51	0.10	0.23	2.55	0.73	1.04	0.53	2.34
2-year	3.70	0.33	3.51	4.78	1.72	2.16	0.75	4.64
4-year	4.37	3.78	3.45	1.88	1.06	1.92	1.93	3.82
Public 2-year institutions	0.95	0.68	0.61	0.68	0.76	0.39	0.52	1.00
Public or private nonprofit 4-year institutions	1.01	1.13	0.42	0.20	0.41	0.35	0.34	0.81

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 6.

TRANSFER STATUS AFTER 6 YEARS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who transferred by 2009 and direction of transfer, by sector of first postsecondary institution: 2004–09

Sector of postsecondary institution first attended	Transfer status by spring 2009		Among transfers		
	Never transferred	Transferred	Upward transfer ¹	Lateral transfer ²	Downward transfer ³
Total	68.3	31.7	39.9	42.6	17.6
All for-profit institutions	75.7	24.3	50.1	35.8	14.2
Less-than-2-year	74.9	25.1	88.8	11.2	†
2-year	78.6	21.4	31.1	63.0	5.9!
4-year	73.6	26.4	†	51.7	48.3
Public 2-year institutions	60.1	39.9	60.8	36.0	3.1
Public or private nonprofit 4-year institutions	74.4	25.6	†	56.7	43.3

† Not applicable.

! Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

¹ Transferred to a higher level postsecondary institution (e.g., from a 2-year to a 4-year institution; or from a less-than-2-year to a 2-year institution).

² Transferred to a same-level postsecondary institution (e.g., from a 2-year to a 2-year institution).

³ Transferred to a lower level postsecondary institution (e.g., from a 4-year to a 2-year institution).

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 2.5 percent of undergraduates who initially attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2003–04 are excluded. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S6.

Standard errors for table 6: TRANSFER STATUS AFTER 6 YEARS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who transferred by 2009 and direction of transfer, by sector of first postsecondary institution: 2004–09

Sector of postsecondary institution first attended	Transfer status by spring 2009		Among transfers		
	Never transferred	Transferred	Upward transfer	Lateral transfer	Downward transfer
Total	0.66	0.66	1.10	1.20	0.79
All for-profit institutions	1.82	1.82	3.94	3.60	2.99
Less-than-2-year	1.48	1.48	2.03	2.03	†
2-year	4.12	4.12	8.21	10.32	3.93
4-year	5.16	5.16	†	7.75	7.75
Public 2-year institutions	1.26	1.26	1.88	1.95	0.52
Public or private nonprofit 4-year institutions	0.75	0.75	†	1.57	1.57

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 7.

SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEGREE PROGRAM AND OTHER ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS:
Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected enrollment characteristics: 2004–09

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit		
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year	4-year
Total	49.5	44.4	53.3	39.5	33.9	34.4	66.6
Initial degree or certificate program							
Certificate	55.1	52.9	53.5	51.5	‡	58.7	25.8 !
Associate's degree	35.1	35.1	‡	34.2	36.7	34.3	47.2
Bachelor's degree	67.3	32.1	‡	‡	32.1	‡	68.6
No certificate or degree	30.7	23.2 !	‡	27.6 !	‡	28.5	44.1
Major field of study							
Health	51.7	54.2	63.0	50.1	35.2	43.8	64.0
Business/management	52.4	33.6	49.8	18.0 !	35.9	38.1	68.6
STEM ¹	58.8	34.7	29.4	26.7	51.3	38.2	75.2
Social sciences and humanities	59.0	37.0	37.5	36.4 !	36.7 !	42.7	72.8
Education	58.9	55.7	‡	‡	‡	41.9	72.9
Vocational/technical and other technical/professional ²	57.7	58.7	67.3	62.5	33.3 !	45.2	70.3
Attendance intensity, 2003–04							
Full-time, full-year	61.8	50.9	55.8	46.3	45.8	47.4	71.2
Full-time, part-year	36.4	36.4	55.9	27.0	20.9 !	26.9	51.7
Part-time, full-year	35.1	29.6	38.6	‡	18.0 !	32.7	42.6
Part-time, part-year	21.9	25.3	30.9 !	20.4 !	23.8 !	20.3	28.2
Work intensity while enrolled³							
Did not work	57.9	52.6	56.8	49.7	42.4	33.4	71.9
Part-time	50.9	41.0	49.2	38.0	30.3 !	39.5	65.7
Full-time (35 or more hours/week)	32.6	38.7	52.4	30.8	32.3	27.9	39.9
Primary role as an undergraduate⁴							
Student working to meet expenses	50.7	43.0	52.2	36.2	38.0	39.8	64.9
Employee enrolled in school	29.9	35.5	48.0	32.7	23.7	25.7	33.7

See notes at end of table.

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 7.

SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEGREE PROGRAM AND OTHER ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS:
Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected enrollment characteristics: 2004–09—Continued

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Reasons for enrolling⁵						
Acquire job or occupational skills	37.4	49.7	54.9	40.5	†	30.4
Complete associate's degree	35.5	36.5	46.1	32.4	†	34.8
Complete certificate	41.5	52.1	56.0	42.5	†	33.1
Take courses solely for recreation, self-improvement, or personal interest	36.1	47.7	53.1	40.5	†	31.8
Transfer to a 4-year postsecondary institution	39.6	46.4	51.2	42.2 !	†	39.2

† Not applicable.

! Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

¹ Includes life sciences, physical sciences, mathematics, computer and information sciences, and engineering and engineering technologies.

² Includes construction trades; personal and culinary services; mechanic, repair technologies, and technicians; precision production; homeland security, law enforcement and protective services; architecture; public administration and social services; law and legal studies; and transportation and materials moving.

³ Excludes work-study, assistantships, and traineeships.

⁴ Only applies to students who had a job.

⁵ Students can select more than one reason. Only applies to students who attended less-than-4-year postsecondary institutions.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 2.5 percent of undergraduates who initially attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2003–04 are included in the total for all undergraduates but not shown separately.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S7.

Standard errors for table 7: SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEGREE PROGRAM AND OTHER ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected enrollment characteristics: 2004–09

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Total	0.68	2.08	2.51	3.70	4.37	0.95
Initial degree or certificate program						
Certificate	1.68	2.41	2.50	8.10	†	5.92
Associate's degree	0.97	3.25	†	4.33	5.94	1.13
Bachelor's degree	1.02	6.77	†	†	6.77	†
No certificate or degree	2.32	10.57	†	14.35	†	2.47
Major field of study						
Health	1.79	4.78	4.38	12.45	10.21	2.36
Business/management	1.60	5.07	6.45	6.22	9.84	2.55
STEM	1.61	5.44	5.97	7.77	11.41	3.64
Social sciences and humanities	1.47	6.78	5.36	15.69	17.00	2.71
Education	2.44	11.97	†	†	†	4.28
Vocational/technical and other technical/professional	1.68	4.38	4.71	8.99	11.47	2.64
Attendance intensity, 2003–04						
Full-time, full-year	0.84	2.44	2.58	5.71	6.34	1.57
Full-time, part-year	1.83	4.93	6.02	6.47	8.58	2.30
Part-time, full-year	1.62	6.26	8.56	†	10.68	2.01
Part-time, part-year	1.79	6.14	9.48	16.53	9.99	2.07
Work intensity while enrolled						
Did not work	1.01	2.19	2.75	5.23	7.71	1.87
Part-time	1.21	4.12	4.57	7.69	11.21	2.28
Full-time (35 or more hours/week)	1.58	3.57	4.20	5.73	7.45	2.07
Primary role as an undergraduate						
Student working to meet expenses	1.01	2.91	3.37	5.54	6.71	1.71
Employee enrolled in school	1.62	4.79	6.51	8.88	7.10	1.93

See notes at end of table.

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S7.

Standard errors for table 7: SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEGREE PROGRAM AND OTHER ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected enrollment characteristics: 2004–09

—Continued

Enrollment characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Reasons for enrolling						
Acquire job or occupational skills	1.28	2.44	2.58	4.57	†	1.55
Complete associate's degree	1.36	4.83	9.19	5.01	†	1.48
Complete certificate	1.66	3.72	3.32	9.55	†	2.54
Take courses solely for recreation, self-improvement, or personal interest	1.12	3.02	4.35	4.72	†	1.18
Transfer to a 4-year postsecondary institution	1.83	8.24	9.75	13.47	†	1.97

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 8.

SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected student characteristics: 2004–09

Student characteristic	All under-graduates	For-profit				Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less-than-2-year			Public 2-year	Private 4-year
			2-year	4-year	2-year		
Total	49.5	44.4	53.3	39.5	33.9	34.4	66.6
Sex							
Male	47.0	42.8	45.4	42.9	39.8	32.0	62.9
Female	51.4	45.3	55.7	36.8	29.9	36.3	69.5
Race/ethnicity ¹							
White	54.2	44.4	49.6	40.5	43.5	38.7	70.1
Black	36.8	37.6	43.6	39.6	19.3 !	26.2	51.7
Hispanic	41.2	52.7	67.5	38.1	25.4 !	25.9	53.1
Asian	57.2	53.9	‡	‡	‡	38.1	73.8
Other or Two or more races	43.2	31.5	34.9	‡	‡	29.2	62.8
Dependency status							
Dependent	56.1	49.3	60.8	44.5	38.8	38.8	69.6
Independent	33.2	40.8	48.8	35.6	28.7	27.1	32.6
Highest education attained by either parent ²							
High school diploma or less	40.7	46.9	57.7	35.4	36.6	31.2	52.2
Some postsecondary education ³	47.5	40.4	46.1	44.2	29.7	37.6	62.3
Bachelor's degree or higher	60.4	44.5	51.8	43.9	36.3 !	38.0	74.0
Dependent student income ⁴							
Lowest 25 percent	45.3	48.1	62.6	34.4	34.6	33.1	56.8
Lower middle 25 percent	53.4	49.5	64.8	42.5	40.4	39.9	65.7
Upper middle 25 percent	58.5	53.7	36.7	65.8	48.5 !	41.2	70.8
Highest 25 percent	68.2	52.7	‡	‡	‡	42.5	79.3
Independent student income ⁵							
Lowest 25 percent	31.0	39.1	40.6	41.5 !	‡	21.6	36.6
Lower middle 25 percent	31.2	40.9	47.5	41.7	‡	21.3	24.1
Upper middle 25 percent	35.4	43.9	60.2	26.6	35.3	30.0	29.1
Highest 25 percent	34.5	38.4	69.1	21.7 !	35.2 !	31.1	37.5

See notes at end of table.

National Center for Education Statistics

Table 8.

SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected student characteristics: 2004–09—Continued

Student characteristic	All under- graduates	For-profit			Public or private		
		Total	Less- than- 2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year	nonprofit 4-year
Ever received a Pell Grant	46.3	45.0	54.3	37.3	33.3	36.0	58.5

! Interpret data with caution. The standard error for this estimate is equal to 30 percent or more of the estimate's value.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

¹ Black includes African American, Hispanic includes Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, and Other or Two or more races includes American Indian, Alaska Native, and respondents having origins in more than one race or in a race not listed. Race categories exclude Hispanic origin unless specified.

² Estimates for parent education exclude the 3.7 percent of students who did not know the highest education attained by either parent.

³ Some postsecondary education includes vocational or technical training, less than 2 years of college, associate's degree, and 2 or more years of college but no degree.

⁴ Based on parents' income in 2003–04.

⁵ Based on student's income plus any income from a spouse, if applicable, in 2003–04.

NOTE: Estimates include students enrolled in Title IV eligible postsecondary institutions in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 2.5 percent of undergraduates who initially attended public less-than-2-year, private nonprofit 2-year, and private nonprofit less-than-2-year postsecondary institutions in 2003–04 are included in the total for all undergraduates but not shown separately.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).

National Center for Education Statistics

Table S8.

Standard errors for table 8: SIX-YEAR ATTAINMENT BY DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS: Percentage of 2003–04 beginning students who attained a degree or certificate by 2009, by sector of first postsecondary institution and selected student characteristics: 2004–09

Student characteristic	All under-graduates	For-profit			Public or private nonprofit	
		Total	Less-than-2-year	2-year	4-year	Public 2-year
Total	0.68	2.08	2.51	3.70	4.37	0.95
Sex						
Male	0.91	4.02	6.60	6.80	6.39	1.72
Female	0.94	2.44	2.08	5.54	5.86	1.24
Race/ethnicity						
White	0.68	2.64	3.30	4.53	6.19	1.25
Black	1.83	3.88	3.20	10.09	8.85	2.51
Hispanic	2.07	4.90	3.66	9.49	9.99	2.06
Asian	2.82	10.70	†	†	†	4.62
Other or Two or more races	2.48	7.34	7.18	†	†	3.75
Dependency status						
Dependent	0.76	3.17	3.49	5.28	6.26	1.32
Independent	1.13	2.46	3.13	5.08	6.01	1.67
Highest education attained by either parent						
High school diploma or less	1.11	2.82	3.29	6.38	5.05	1.60
Some postsecondary education	1.41	3.98	3.50	8.92	7.09	2.35
Bachelor's degree or higher	0.94	6.28	5.95	11.51	12.82	1.69
Dependent student income						
Lowest 25 percent	1.31	3.80	4.14	8.36	6.84	1.83
Lower middle 25 percent	1.32	5.53	6.13	10.66	10.81	2.06
Upper middle 25 percent	1.42	9.12	10.19	14.19	15.66	3.16
Highest 25 percent	1.41	10.35	†	†	†	3.46
Independent student income						
Lowest 25 percent	2.39	4.43	3.18	12.81	†	3.45
Lower middle 25 percent	2.84	5.41	6.75	8.97	†	2.75
Upper middle 25 percent	2.61	4.20	4.43	7.68	7.90	4.54
Highest 25 percent	2.24	6.34	6.17	7.82	12.07	2.44
Ever received a Pell Grant	1.03	2.16	2.78	3.85	5.22	1.61
† Not applicable.						

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).